



Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709 St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community

April 2010

<http://www.kofc9709.org>

The Official Publication of Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709

TWELVE KNIGHTS TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN MARCH

Twelve Brother Knights took the next step to full Knighthood during the month of March. Eight Brother Knights took their 2nd Degree at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church Tuesday, March 16: Ken Bridges, Peter Brzezinski, Raul Cedeño, Brian Curley, John Gbruoski, Dominic Paredi, Eric Robinson and David Torres. Four more took their 2nd Degree Saturday, March 20, at St. Francis: Andy Farrell, Tim Fischer, Dave Green and Deacon Michael Thangwah.

Four Brothers also took their 3rd Degree Ceremony hosted by Council 7186 in Apex on March 20. Congratulations to Brothers Ken Bridges, Mark Nilsson, Brother Deacon Michael Thangwah and David Torres.

This has been quite a year for the All Saints Council as far as recruiting goes. The Council added two more new members – Mike Anderson and Paul Henderson – at its April 6 business meeting, bringing to 26 the number of new Knights added to the Council's ranks for this fraternal year. Brother Dr. Michael G. Tencza was also accepted as a transfer from St. Ann's Council 11265 in Smithfield, N.C.

All Saints Council 9709 may be in line for "Double Star" Council status for fraternal year 2009-2010. Its original membership goal was 13, and the two new members added in April doubled that number. The number of new insurance members may well be the only issue at this point, although Field Agent Tim Kilpatrick is confident that he has identified five Knights who will purchase annuities or life insurance before the end of June.

COUNCIL SUBMITS AWARD NOMINATIONS

All Saints Council 9709 has submitted awards nominations for four Council members and six of its programs.

The Council has submitted Brother Mike Wrzesien for State Knight of the Year honors, Brother Don and wife Terri Donaghy for State Family of the Year, Brother Tony Evans for State Golden Knight of the Year and Brother Jim Brown for State Rookie of the Year.

At the State level, the Council submitted its award nomination for the State Deputy's Award for the first time in memory this year. The Council had never maintained a scrapbook, which is one of the requirements for the award. This year Elaine DuPree volunteered to put a scrapbook together, which makes the Council eligible. The Council has submitted its "Mr. Tootsie" Breakfast/Operation LAMB Kick-Off event held Sept. 19, 2009, for the State Chaplain's Award. Lastly, the Council submitted its monthly newsletter for the Duane Russell Award for best Council newsletter.

Councils are encouraged to submit awards recommendations under the categories of Church, Community, Council, Family and Youth for competition with other Councils' nominations by Division. Council 9709 is in Division IV for Councils with membership ranging upward from 160 members. All Saints Council submitted its Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) under Church, its Pro-Life Program under Community, its entire Fundraising Program under Council, its monthly Social Gatherings Program under Family and its Scholarship Program under Youth.

The award winners will be announced at the State Convention May 14-16.



Brother Knights who took their 2nd Degree at St. Raphael's March 16: (L-R: Eric Robinson, Ken Bridges, John Gbruoski, David Torres, Raul Cedeño, Peter Brzezinski, Dominic Paredi and Brian Curley.

FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT:

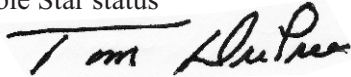
I spoke with Brother Joe Hebert this past week, and he told me he wanted to come down to Raleigh for this weekend's Operation LAMB drive. His daughter would not let him, but he did remind me to remind all of you that "if he can do it, you can do it!" We are still short some shifts for the weekend. Please consider volunteering. This is our most important fundraiser.

And, just as important is our annual barbecue fundraiser, which will happen this year on Sunday, April 25, in conjunction with the Church's GIFT Fest celebration and blessing of the new facilities on campus. Again, the sign up sheets are on the website, and there are a number of vacancies. If you find you can help, even at the last minute, please come out. If you're not signed up, report to Jacoba Hall where someone will place you where needed.

Congratulations to both our Family and Knight of the Month for April. The Baumgartners as a family have a very impressive resume both with the Council as well as the Church, and we are proud to count you among us! Brother Deacon Michael Thangwah will depart for his native country of Kenya May 11, where he will be ordained in June. We wish him well and harbor just a little hope that perhaps someday he will found a Knights of Columbus Order in Kenya. Godspeed, Brother Deacon Michael!

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for working so hard this year on membership. With the addition of our latest two members, Brothers Michael Anderson and Paul Henderson, at our April 6 business meeting, we have added 26 new brothers, twice as many as our quota, which qualifies the Council for Double Star status for the fraternal year. Well done, my Brothers!

Vivat Jesus,


CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(More details available at www.kofc9709.org)

APRIL 2010

- 9-11 - Operation LAMB, See Website for Sign Ups
- *16 - Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Potluck and "Evan Almighty" Movie
- 21 - Abottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 24 - 3rd Degree Ceremony, 3 p.m., Council 9499, Clemmons
- 25 - GIFT Fest, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Jacoba Hall
- 27 - Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conf Room

MAY 2010

- 1 - 3rd Degree Ceremony, 3 p.m., Council 8886, Brevard
- 4 - 1st Degree/Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 15-16 - NC State KofC Convention, Charlotte
- 18 - Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Trali's, Brierdale Shopping Center, Brier Creek
- 19 - Abottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 25 - Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conf Room
- 31 - Memorial Day Mass for Deceased Veterans, 9 a.m., St. Mary of the Angels Chapel

JUNE 2010

- 1 - 1st Degree/Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall
- 4-6 - NC Special Olympics
- 4-6 - Operation LAMB, See Website for Sign Ups
- 12 - Council Picnic, 11 a.m., Falls Lake Recreation Area
- 15 - Social Gathering, 6:30 p.m., TBD
- 16 - Abottswood Seniors Poker, 7:30 p.m., 7900 Creedmoor Rd
- 26 - 3rd Degree Ceremony, 11 a.m., Council 3947, Fayetteville
- 26 - Officers Installation Ceremony, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary of the Angels Chapel
- 29 - Officers Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Anthony Hall Conf Room

* NOTE DATE CHANGE

FOR THE FIRST DEGREE KNIGHT . . . PPDPK

At the May 1999 State Convention, delegates passed a resolution establishing a Catholic Charities Fund. The resolution stated that the fund would be supported by a "Penny Per Day Per Knight" donation from every Knight in North Carolina.

Contributions are used by the State's two Bishops to support needy Parishes, especially during natural or man-made disasters. Monies collected are mandated to be used in the year they are collected under the premise that there is always a need somewhere in North Carolina. Delegates at the 1999 Convention felt that it was more practical to establish an existing fund to support the Bishops than appeal to all Councils on an as-needed basis for assistance.

This upcoming fraternal year will likely be a busy one for this fund. Donations are down for all sorts of charitable causes, and the needs are more likely to increase rather than stay the same or lessen. This is why the Council recently approved an extraordinary donation of \$1,000 for the Bishop's Annual Appeal this year (see story on Page 6), but much more is needed.

Each year when Knights in Council 9709 are sent their annual dues notices, the Financial Secretary includes a request for an additional voluntary contribution of \$3.65 for the "Penny Per Day Per Knight" Catholic Charities Fund. Last year the All Saints Council sent some \$377 to State for this fund, which represented less than half the membership participating. This year, should all 213 members (as of April 1) contribute, the Council's voluntary assessment would be \$777.45.



LAMB AND BBQ SIGN UPS ON WEBSITE

Sign up sheets for Operation LAMB the weekend of April 9-10 and for the Council's annual barbecue being held with the Church's GIFTfest April 25 are on the Council website at www.kofc9709.org. Brother Knights are encouraged to volunteer on the Council website for both of these important activities.

As of the April 6 business meeting, there were still 10 of 100 three-hour slots open for Operation LAMB. Stores that have open slots include the Glenwood Walmart, the Morrisville Walmart (the most lucrative location), the Kroger on Creedmoor and the Sam's Club in Morrisville.

Grand Knight Tom DuPree appealed to Brothers at the April 6 business meeting to commit to serving at least one shift during the barbecue. Kitchen help is always welcome, and there are a number of special jobs for the more adventurous. The annual barbecue's revenues are typically dedicated to the Council's Catholic Education Fund, which awarded scholarships and grants last year of \$5,500.00.

FIVE WORK MULTI-STATE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Three Council 9709 Knights and two wives put in some 32 volunteer hours at the Special Olympics Multi-State Aquatics Competition held Saturday, March 27, at the Pullen Aquatic Center in Raleigh. Athletes came from Florida, North Carolina, Ohio and Virginia.

The five-person team made up of Brother Jerry and Irene Cucurullo, Brother Joe and Carol Mesa and Richard Szulewski presented hundreds of awards to athletes who competed in about 300 heats for the 88 race events scheduled. Although the NC Special Olympics Committee had indicated that there would be plenty of other volunteers, the five representatives from All Saints Council had to run the Awards Ceremonies themselves.

Brother Knights interested in working Special Olympics events should contact Brother Jerry Cucurullo directly at 846-2085 or at cucurullo7@yahoo.com. There are a number of smaller events that occur during the year. The biggest events are the upcoming NC Special Olympics Aquatics Competition June 2-4 and the Bowling Competition that happens in the winter.

EIGHT KNIGHTS RUN EASTER SHUTTLES

Eight Knights stepped up to run the Easter shuttle bus service for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community Sunday, April 4, for the 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses.

Thanks to Brothers Jim Brown, Mike Cichoracki, Ralph Guenther, Fred Johnson, David Torres and John Wagner for driving the shuttle buses. Brothers Bob Austin, Ralph Guenther and Tim Stevens picked up and returned the buses from Cardinal Gibbons High School.

The shuttle service will likely continue for 2011, even though only about 50 families took advantage of the shuttle service to Church. More publicity for the service is being considered for next year.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY EFFORT BAGS 14

Some 10 Knights scoured Leesville from the Citgo Station to the Durham County line Saturday, March 13, hauling in 10 bags of trash and four bags of recyclables during the Council's quarterly trash pick up. The weather held, and the job was completed in an hour and a half.

Thanks to Brothers Dick Bridges, Jerry Cucurullo, Tom DuPree, Mike Evans, Tony Evans, Ralph Guenther, Tony Halterman, John Moster, Mike Supianoski and Walt Winewicz for coming out.

Adopt-a-Highway point man Brother John Moster has confirmed with NCDOT that the Council's Adopt-a-Highway signs will be replaced. The signs were removed during the construction on Leesville from the Citgo Station to I-540 and at the new bridge on the Durham-Wake County line.

NCDOT has also confirmed that its records show that All Saints Council signed its initial contract for the Adopt-A-Highway Program in January 2001. The Council will complete ten years of service in January 2011, and the 10-year sticker for the Council will be awarded in June 2011, according to NCDOT.



BAUMGARTNERS SELECTED AS FAMILY OF THE MONTH



Theresa, Allison and Brother Mark Baumgartner

Council officers have selected Brother Mark, wife Theresa and daughter Allison Baumgartner as Family of the Month for April. The Baumgartners were selected because of the family's incredible service to the Church as well as their support of All Saints Council.

Brother Mark has participated in Operation LAMB and worked at the RBC Center, and has accepted a subcommittee chairmanship for pre-school games at the GIFT Fest and Council Barbecue April 25. He serves as a lector at church, and with wife Theresa co-chairs the Marriage Preparation Ministry and this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal Committee at St. Francis.

Wife Theresa serves on the Liturgy Committee and as a Eucharistic minister and Sacristan as well as a member of the Sienna Share the Vision (GIFT) Committee at Church. She is

also active at The Franciscan School where she works with the 3rd Grade Gospel Share and as a Co-Room Mom. She also serves on the HSA Board and a number of committees including: Cultural Arts (Chair), Spring Social, Art Show, Ronald McDonald House cookie/cake baking and Staff Appreciation. She also serves as a judge for the TFS annual Science Fair.

Allison sings in the Children's Choir at 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday and regularly assists her mother with Sacristan duties. She frequently accompanies her parents to meetings when childcare is not available, something that will likely help her to continue her involvement in Church activities in future.

COUNCIL BUYS MASS KIT FOR APRIL KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Council 9709 approved \$467 for the purchase of a Mass Kit for Br. Michael Thangwah at its March 3 business meeting and awarded him Knight of the Month honors at the April 6 meeting. Br. Michael will take the Mass Kit to Kenya as he prepares for his June 12 ordination by His Eminence John Cardinal Njue at Holy Eucharist Catholic Church in the Nairobi Archdiocese. Priests carry Mass Kits when they travel to say daily Mass and use them for Masses where formal Church settings may be lacking.

Br. Michael took his first degree with the Council August 21 and took his second and third degrees March 20. His interest in the Knights began during the summer of 2009 when he ministered at St. Francis, and he hopes to take at least the teachings of the principles of the Order back to his country and perhaps found a Knights of Columbus Council there. Council officers felt that those aspirations were worthy of his being named Knight of the Month for April.

Br. Michael was born in Kenya May 13, 1972, into a family of 13. He became a seminarian with the Archdiocese of Nairobi in 1992, and in September 2002 he joined the Franciscan Missionaries of Hope. He came to the United States in November 2003 and served at St. Benedict Church in Grambling, La., until July 2004. In August 2004 he joined the Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, Olean, N.Y., where he graduated with a Masters of Arts in Franciscan Studies in May 2006. After a sojourn in Kenya, he returned to the United States in August 2007 to the Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C., where he is currently finishing his studies for a Masters of Divinity degree.

Br. Michael made his Solemn Profession on June 19, 2009, and was ordained a Deacon the next day by Bishop Michael Duca at the Church of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Shreveport, La. That same summer he spent several weeks at St. Francis and became a Knight.



Brother Deacon Michael Thangwah

RBC CENTER REVENUE AND PARTICIPATION DOWN

Funds received so far for the 2009-2010 RBC Center season have been less than half of what they were for the 2008-2009 season. As of March 30, the Council had only received \$3,833.17 (including some \$34.35 in tips) for working 25 of 26 scheduled events. This is likely to affect the Council's charitable contributions for 2010. Last season the Council earned \$10,439.27. The RBC Center activity has been the single largest contributor to the Council's coffers since All Saints began working at the arena during the 2005-2006 season.

The number of Knights participating in the RBC Center concession sales has also declined from last season. So far this season only 32 Knights and five wives have participated. Last year some 53 Knights and wives participated. The Council was able to furnish only four people for a full five-person contingent at one major event this season, the first time it has had to renege on its contract with the RBC Center, and there are currently three vacant slots for the last two events this year on April 3 and 10. The Council was able to furnish only four people for a full five-person contingent at one major event this past season, the first time it has had to renege on its contract with the RBC Center. There were also vacant slots for the last event this year on April 10, but that event was cancelled. Brother Knights put in some 540 volunteer hours at the RBC Center this season.

Six Knights worked five or more events this year: Brothers Dick Bridges, Tony Evans, Ralph Guenther, Dennis Kelleher, Mike Supianoski and Mike Wrzesien. The other 26 Knights worked one to four events. On the plus side, some 15 new Knights volunteered for at least one shift.

Whether to continue the Council's commitment to the RBC Center will be discussed during the budget formulation for fraternal year 2010-11 and at future meetings. Brothers will be asked during those meetings to pledge to work one or more events during the coming year. Should there be an insufficient number of volunteers, the Council will either have to cut back or cancel its commitment.



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.

"Retirement – Part II"

by Rudy Sturk
KofC Marketing Services
Field Management, New Haven, Conn.

In last month's column, I wrote specifically to baby boomers regarding the "R" word: Retirement. I presented some dire facts regarding the current state of employer-provided pension plans. That was the bad news. The good news - you can do something about it.

Think of retirement as a three-legged stool. In order to maintain balance, you need all three legs, or there is a real possibility of a crash! One leg consists of the benefits the government offers you. Debate rages about the viability of future benefits, and my best advice is to stay tuned to the discussion and make sure you are aware of what is planned for those benefits. Any change in future promises should be accounted for as we get to the third leg.

The second leg is your company's pension plan, either defined benefit (such as a traditional pension: you work so many years and the company provides you with so much monthly benefit) or defined contribution (such as the popular 401K plans). Again, some of these plans, particularly traditional, are under stress. Learn how yours works. Read the plan description, and stay on top of the news coming from the company. On the 401K side, become a good investor. Teach yourself the fundamentals of good diversification and know how much you have and when you will need it.

Finally, the third leg, and the one that you can exercise the most control over – the saving you do yourself. Everyone needs this third leg. It consists of the money you set aside on a disciplined basis to help in retirement. You don't directly control government benefits, and you don't directly manage your company's pension plan. But you do manage your own life.

Establish a retirement plan of your own. Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can guarantee you an income that you cannot outlive at retirement. That's right – guarantee you an income you cannot outlive. That really will provide you with piece of mind. As you ponder all the things that may not work out as you proceed toward retirement, think about the one thing you can do to help yourself. It's reasonably priced (\$300 to start), guaranteed, and controlled by someone you trust: you!

Field Agent Tim Kilpatrick is there to help. Call him at 847-3799 (H), 880-3463 (C) or send him an e-mail at Tim1002@earthlink.net or Timothy.Kilpatrick@kofc.org.

COUNCIL KNIGHTS COMPLETE MASS CENSUS

Some 28 Knights signed up to conduct a census of parishioners attending each Mass over the weekends of Feb. 27-28, March 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21. Knights worked three per Mass, and 52 of the 60 slots were covered, logging in some 52 volunteer hours. Results of the census will determine whether more Masses or a change in the Mass schedule is needed.

“We approached the Knights for this task because they are always cooperative in helping the church and have a knack for doing things like this right,” said Chief of Parish Operations Ben Whitehouse who approached Grand Knight Tom DuPree with the request. “We've worked closely with the Knights to increase their visibility in the Parish, and I'm just thrilled with the way things are going with the All Saints Council.”

One Knight was assigned to each door and clicked a counter for every parishioner coming through that door one-half hour before Mass to 15 minutes into Mass and then counted parishioners remaining in the entry hall for the total count. Over the four weekends, the Knights counts showed average attendance at the 5:30 p.m. Saturday Mass to be 853, 318 at the 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, 1,167 at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, 1,202 at the 11:30 a.m. Mass and 697 at the 5:30 Sunday Mass.

Knights participating in the project included Brothers John Acampora, Dick Barton, Dave Bole, Dick Bridges, Marty Buskirk, Tom Byrnes, Mike Cichoracki, Tom DuPree, Jack Fallon, John Gbruoski, David Green, Ralph Guenther, Tru Hall, Jeff Henry, Mike Hoover, Fred Johnson, Joe Kane, Larry Leins, John Lewandowski, John Moster, Peter Oertel, John Riddle, Jeff Rohman, Kent Siefkes, Mike Supianoski, Norm Tuomi, Glenn Weiss and Walt Winewicz.



Mass Census counters used this simple push-button device to count parishioners entering the three doors to the Church.

COUNCIL HELPS TWO EAGLES SOAR

Council members unanimously approved \$970 in funding for two Boy Scout Troop 352 Eagle Scout projects at the March 3 business meeting. Both Eagle Scout candidates briefed their projects at the meeting.

Eagle Scout candidate Alex Kot built a kiosk in Umstead Park to provide fish and wildlife information to park visitors. The kiosk is next to Lake Upper at the Glenwood Avenue Entrance to the park. Fellow Scouts and other volunteers put in 150 volunteer hours to help Alex with his project, and the Park Ranger was so impressed with the design that he has indicated that future such kiosks will conform to the plans that Alex drafted. The \$470 voted for Alex will cover the material cost of the 8' x 5' structure.

Eagle Scout candidate Charlie Slone will start a project of building 14 shelter boxes for the Stations of the Cross along the path of St. Ignatius on the St. Francis of Assisi campus to the west of Anthony Hall. He has been asked by the Church to build and install the first seven of the boxes. The remaining seven boxes will be reserved for another Scout's project. Charlie will also build two benches at one of the reflecting areas along the path. The total cost of Charlie's project is \$962. The Council's contribution of \$500 will supplement the available funds in his personal Scout account. Council 9709 is the founding sponsor of Troop 352.

ALL SAINTS COUNCIL DONATES \$1,000 TO BAA

Council 9709 voted to donate \$1,000 to the Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA) at its April 6 business meeting. A motion to make the donation was made, seconded and tabled for vote in April at the March 3 business meeting.

Brother Shawn Bayle had read an appeal from Brother Mark Baumgartner at the March meeting asking the Council to consider this request given the extraordinary economic conditions.

“Although I know many of you have already given an individual pledge, I am asking the Council to make a pledge to the St. Francis of Assisi BAA campaign in the amount of at least \$1,000,” Brother Baumgartner wrote.

The Parish's goal this year is \$427,000, and according to Brother Baumgartner, the current pledges are about \$100,000 behind that goal. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community's goal is the highest of any Parish in eastern North Carolina. Brother Baumgartner and wife Theresa are co-chairing this year's BAA campaign for St. Francis.

Discussion at the March meeting underlined that this donation was not intended to set a precedent for future contributions from the Council to the BAA.